CANADIAN Film Weekly
VOICE of the CANADIAN MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

Vol. 12, No. 49 TORONTO, DECEMBER 17, 1947 $2.00 Per Annum

Exhibs Form Nat'l Association

Fitzgibbons Elected Chairman At Meeting In Queen City

A coast-to-coast exhibitor organization, the first in the history of the Canadian motion picture industry, was created last week in Toronto by representatives of Provincial and regional associations and groups who met to discuss industry problems and particularly the 20 per cent federal amusement tax. Elected chairman of the new national organization was J. J. Fitzgibbons, president of Famous Players Canadian Corporation.

The organization, named the National Committee of Motion Picture Exhibitors Associations of Canada, will meet in Ottawa in January to make representations

(Continued on Page 3)

Bob Maynard At Capitol, Ham'n

Promotion of Bob (R. E.) Maynard from the Savoy, Hamilton, to the Palace as successor of the famed veteran manager, George Stroud, will be good news to the trade, for he is a well-liked lad. Stroud retired on superannuation from Odeon Theatres of Canada

(Continued on Page 10)

Fox Announces Short Subjects

Production of 20th Century-Fox short subjects is six months ahead of schedule, with producers Edmund Reek of Movietone and Paul Terry of Terrytoon already having completed half of the 1948 product, it was announced recently by Peter Levathes, short

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Sturgess Back As Local 173 Prez

James Sturgess, Shea's, was re-elected president of Local 173, Toronto IATSE; Harry Dobson, Fairlawn, vice-president; George H. Jones, Tivoli, secretary-treasurer; and Pat Travers, Fairlawn, recording secretary.

Also on the executive board are Jack Hills, Capitol; Norm Tanner, Uptown; Ed Shields, Bellevue; and Ray Jenkins.

Trustees are E. H. Wyatt, Fred Saunders and Lou Applebaum, while George Robinson is tyler and Sol Cohen sergeant-at-arms.

Samson On Leave Due To Health

Sydney Samson, manager of the Canadian division for 20th Century-Fox, has been granted an indeterminate leave of absence because of ill-health, it was announced from the Dominion head office in Toronto last week. He has been ailing infrequently and

(Continued on Page 3)

Two For Ladner, BC

Town council of Ladner, BC, has issued two permits for the construction of theatres in that community. At present L. Toffey is operating 300 seats two days weekly in the Community Hall.

FPCC Managerial Changes

Famous Players has announced a number of shifts and promotions among its managers in different parts of the Dominion. They are as follows:

Murray Lynch, assistant manager of the Capitol, London, has become manager of the Capitol, Halifax.

Norman Gray, assistant manager of the Patricia, London, succeeds Lynch under W. K. Trudell at the Capitol, London.

Trevor Dakin succeeds Grey at the Patricia under T. H. Knight.

Ted Doney, formerly manager of the Capitol, Halifax, succeeds Sam Mantle at the Royal, Guelph, Ontario.

Sam Mantle becomes manager of the Parkdale, Toronto, relieving Walter Greydon who is on a leave of absence.

Walter Blondell, formerly assistant manager of the Imperial, Toronto, succeeds the late Joe Bolinsky at the Imperial, Sarnia, Ontario.

Bob Nelson, assistant manager of the Capitol, Chatham, Ontario, succeeds Blondell at the Imperial, Toronto.

Marvin Fremes, assistant manager at the Capitol, Welland, succeeds Nelson in Chatham.

Hubert Hartman, newcomer to the business, succeeds Fremes in Welland.

Doney will enter the Famous Players' 25 Year Club shortly. Dakin, formerly of Associated British Cinemas, came to this country recently.

Gangster, Crime Pix Banned By MPAA

The board of directors of the Motion Picture Association of America took positive steps recently to strengthen the industry's system of self-regulation covering picture content, titles and advertising.

On recommendation of Eric Johnston, chairman, the board unanimously approved changes in existing codes and regulations to carry out these objectives, and at the same time the company heads dropped from the registration list more than 25 titles considered to be objectionable and unsuitable.

(Continued on Page 10)

Deseronto Reopened

Stan Marek has purchased the 303-seat Deseronto Theatre in Deseronto, Ontario, closed for a time, and reopened it.

Variety Hockey Set On Christmas Night

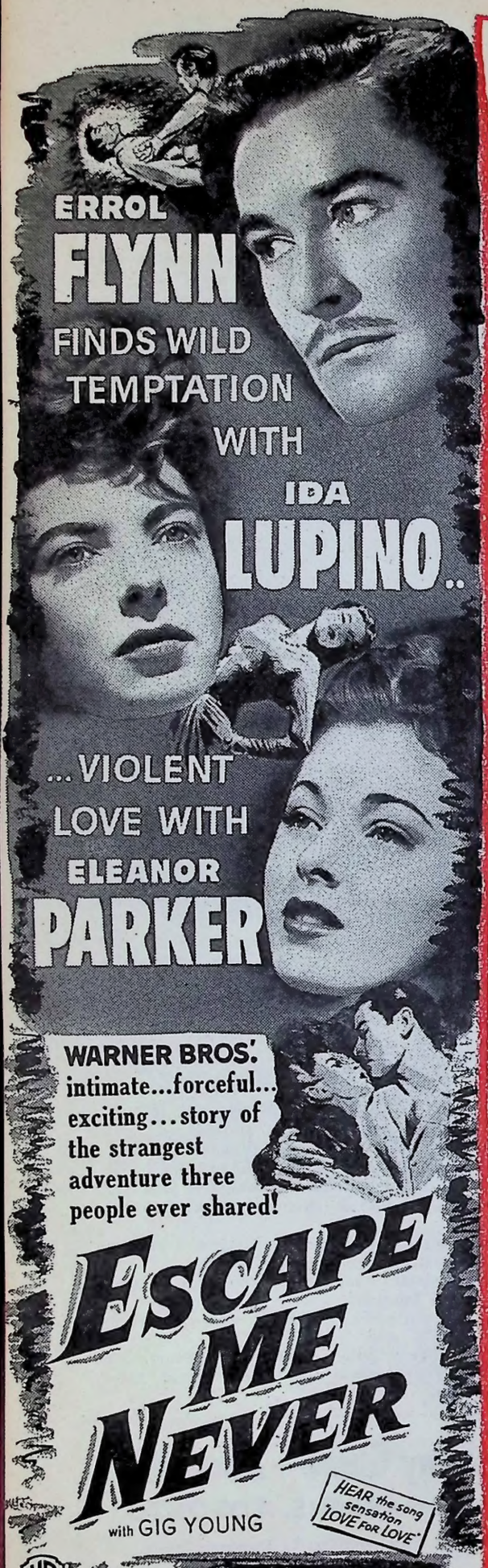
Pittsburgh will oppose Toronto Marlboros on Christmas night at the Maple Leaf Gardens, proceeds to the Heart Fund of the Toronto Variety Club for the projected school and residence for Ontario's crippled children.

Barker Conny Smythe and his associates of the Gardens arranged the game, with everything gratis. The Gardens will pay any expenses incurred.

Barkers of Tent 28 have been working on arrangements and ticket sale.

Variety Hockey Game—Xmas Nite
MAPLE LEAF GARDENS, TORONTO
Tickets at Canadian Film Weekly, 25 Dundas Square.

'THE RETURN OF RIN TIN TIN'
In Glorious COLOR!
The Most Famous Dog of all Time is Back in the Kind of Picture That Made RIN TIN TIN the Screen's BIGGEST MONEY-MAKER! Book this EAGLE-LION (Hollywood) Film NOW!
INTERNATIONAL FILM DISTRIBUTORS Limited.



FOLLOWS "THAT HAGEN GIRL"---

----"DARK PASSAGE"------

"THE UNSUSPECTED"----To be

followed by "MY WILD IRISH ROSE"

color by Technicolor

---- and
all
the
time---

all
over
the
land

"LIFE WITH FATHER"

color by Technicolor

From
Warner Bros.

JACK L. WARNER, Executive Producer

Samson On Leave Due To Health

(Continued from Page 1)

it is hoped in the trade, in which he is highly regarded, that he may recover shortly and return to his desk.

While Samson is away William C. Gehring, assistant general sales manager under Andrew W. Smith, Jr., will keep a supervisory eye on the Canadian structure from his office in New York and will also make trips to Toronto when necessary.

Gehring, who was promoted from western sales manager in June this year following the appointment of Smith as successor to Tom Connors, is very well acquainted with the Canadian trade, for during his long service with the company he served in several important executive posts in this country, where he enjoys many personal friendships. It is likely that this was a factor in his assumption of direct responsibility for this country for the time being.

Samson came here in June, 1943, having been promoted from manager for the Buffalo area to associate head of the Canadian district. This summer Canada was made a separate sales division and he was given a higher status. He came here because of the illness of Jim O'Loghlin and assumed full charge when the latter passed on.

At present Samson is head of the motion picture section of the Board of Trade.

'Isle Of Hate'

Brooks Walton's "Isle of Hate" has been acquired by Monogram.

National Association Created By Exhibs

(Continued from Page 1)

to the government for removal of the levy on amusement tickets, a war excise tax. At the Toronto sessions each organization represented pledged that its members would not raise their admission prices if the tax is ended.

A. J. Mason, president of the Maritime Allied Exhibitors Association and mayor of Springhill, was elected secretary-treasurer, with A. H. Jolley, Motion Picture Theatres Association of Ontario, as assistant secretary-treasurer.

At present the setup is along provisional lines, its major interest being removal of the tax, but a number of committees were created to determine the organization's future structure and its aims and objects.

Establishment of a national organization was not contemplated by the delegates prior to their coming to Toronto but grew out of a realization of its needs. Approval of regional bodies is still to come and present officers, etc., are pro tem.

J. J. Fitzgibbons, Toronto, Arthur Hirsch, Montreal, and A. J. Mason, Springhill, NS, were named to the By-Laws and Constitution Committee.

On the Ways and Means Committee are Morris Stein, Toronto; Ben Freedman, Toronto; Basil Salamis, Montreal; and Robert Hurwitz, Winnipeg.

The Legislative Committee is composed of Morris Stein, chairman; Arthur Hirsch; A. J. Mason; Matt Park, Calgary; Mesho Triller, Winnipeg; and Maynard Joiner, Vancouver.

The Public Relations Committee is made up of Clare J. Appel of Toronto, chairman; Ken M. Leach, Calgary; Frank Gow, Vancouver; F. Gordon Spencer, Saint John, NB; Robt. Hurwitz; and Basil Salamis.

The following are the delegates who attended the two-day conference:

Morris Stein, eastern division manager, Famous Players Canadian Corporation.

Arch. H. Jolley, executive secretary of the Motion Picture Theatres Association of Ontario.

Clare J. Appel, eastern division manager of Odeon Theatres of Canada Limited and president of the Motion Picture Theatres Association of Ontario.

Matt Park, president of the Alberta Theatres Association.

K. M. Leach, Strand and Variety theatres, Calgary.

F. H. Gow, district manager for British Columbia for Famous Players.

M. S. Joiner, supervisor for Vancouver and Victoria for Famous Players.

A. J. Mason, president, Maritime Allied Exhibitors Association.

Gorden Spencer, general manager, F. G. Spencer Company.

Ben Freedman, president, Allied Co-Operative Theatres.

Bruce McLeod, vice-president, Allied Co-Operative Theatres.

Harry Romberg, secretary, Allied Co-Operative Theatres.

Mesho Triller, president, Manitoba Motion Picture Exhibitors Association.

R. D. Hurwitz, honorary president of the Manitoba Motion Pictures Exhibitors Association.

J. Arthur Hirsch, president of Consolidated Theatres Limited and Quebec Allied Theatrical Industries.

Charles Bourassa, secretary, Quebec Allied Theatrical Industries.

Basil C. Salamis, Laval and Fairyland Theatres, Montreal.

P. W. Mahon, president, Saskatchewan Motion Picture Exhibitors Association.

Jack Watson, secretary, Saskatchewan Motion Picture Exhibitors Association.

At the dinner of the Ontario association for the delegates who gathered in Toronto, held in the King Edward Hotel, national unity of Canadian exhibitors won unanimous support.

"We may have diversified interests, but surely we have common objectives," said the Honorable J. Earl Lawson, managing director of Odeon Theatres of Canada, who was introduced by Chairman Morris Stein. A Dominion organization developed from the Provincial bodies now in existence was needed to deal with the national problems of the industry, he said.

"Our objective should be the greatest good for the greatest number," Lawson stated, "and I will be disappointed if after this meeting we do not create a national organization to deal with our national problems."

John J. Fitzgibbons of Famous Players touched on the importance of public relations to the industry and the need of a source of information that would serve to do away with the great amount of misinformation printed about the industry.

P. W. Mahon of Saskatchewan, Ben Freedman of Ontario, A. J. Mason of Nova Scotia and others endorsed the ideas of the speakers. "I think it is important that we have an organization that can speak for all of us," said Mahon.

Film Weekly

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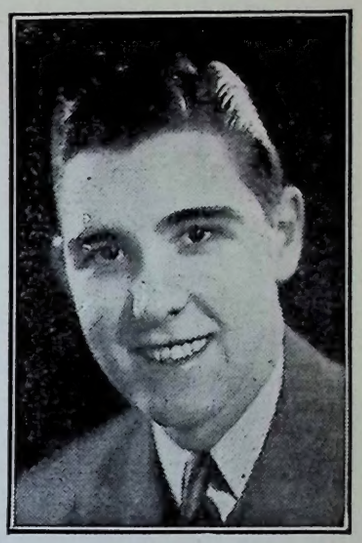

BOB MAYNARD

Made manager of the Palace, Hamilton, following the retirement of the veteran George Stroud.

'Red Stallion' Hits Two For Two Here

"Red Stallion," Eagle-Lion Hollywood Films' Cinecolor production being released in Canada by International Film Distributors Limited, has been held over in both its pre-release engagements in Canada. Two situations were the Imperial, Toronto, and the Palace, Calgary.

Regular engagements of the Parent's Magazine award winner are set to start in Montreal and Hamilton on Christmas Day, with other bookings following at the beginning of the year.

Apartm't Available

A well-known film man has a five-room apartment available and asks that trade folk who think they need it badly enough get in touch with this publication.

Garrette To Sudbury

Grant Garrette has been named to the position of manager at Twentieth Century Theatres' Grand Theatre in Sudbury, Ontario. He succeeds Charles Frost who resigned recently.

It's Always Fair Weather . . .

Odds & Ends of News

Jimmy Granger and His Pals

Breathes there a man of good will with soul so dead that he isn't stimulated by the news that Jimmy Granger is again within hiking distance of a handshake? Not in this section of show business, brother.

It was an abridged edition of the industry's unfailing best feller that showed up this trip, for genial James R. is 16 pounds lighter. No matter, for the boys are with him through thick and thin and—like so many of us—probably thick again. But Uncle Jimmy, Republic's vice-president, can still out-benign Santa at 50 yards, spotting the jovial old fellow nom de plumage, chin fringe, prop paunch and all.

Jim, who after all these years continues to be the trade's most constant continent crosser, came into the Queen City while theatre operators from the Maritimes to the Cariboo and the prairies that lie between were still here after their meeting. Alf Perry of Empire-Universal figured that the combination would make a great double feature so he booked it into the King Edward Hotel, with Jim the main attraction.

So there was Jimmy Granger dominating naturally the scene he suits most and likes best—one with so many things that make life worthwhile, among them fine viands and vintage. And, most important, friends.

Someone asked about Jim's boy, Ed, the producer whose "Flying Tigers" boosted Republic into top playing time, and was informed that he had just turned out another film that will wear out the ticket machines faster, "The Fabulous Texan." Jim, who believes that the best picture is the one with the greatest attraction for the greatest number of people, is strangely high on Orson Welles "Macbeth." That would seem to be aimed at the patrons with the longest locks but Jim says that exhibitors everywhere, sensing that Shakespeare may finally make good with the average man, are asking for the film.

There was reminiscence and raillery on a large and unrestrained scale, with Jimmy Granger generating most of it and contributing much of it. The evening wore on but not out. Some left to catch trains, warmed by the memories and materials of a good time, and others stayed on for more of the latter.

Local papers please do not copy.

Those Western Guys

The boys from the exterior regions where meat and wheat thrive in their original forms were in the thick of things, especially Calgary's Ken (Fogarty) Leach, himself a famed host.

The boys were amazed at how much of the fiery horseradish—which came with the roast beef at the MPTAO dinner the night before—Herb Allen had put away. "Herb," said Ken, "when I get back to Alberta I'm going to kill a couple of horses and make you more of that horseradish."

John Hazza's name came into the conversation and Ken remembered a bit of wisdom from him about horseracing. "You don't need horses," John once told Ken, "if you have horse sense."

Matt's the Boy, Sure Enough

As is usually the way, after a while in the chin rodeo the verbal roughriders got to playing hard with words—but joking all the time, of course. Alf Perry, Jimmy Granger and some of the others, to the laughter of the listeners, tried to bulldog Matt Park of Wetaskiwin, Alberta exhib leader, mainly because he attracted the attention of all with his stories, told with Swedish or Scottish accents.

Matt, a noted two-gun guy out his way, is no more tongue-tied than thumb-tied and raised many a roar as he stood them all off with no help from his cow country colleagues. He was as quick on the draw as his joshers, although he let them draw first.

To wit: "I'll bet you'd offer a salesman a dollar and a quarter for a picture," taunted Jimmy. "Why the quarter?" asked Matt, innocent-like. And wittier: "How much do you pay for your pictures?" kidded Perry. "As little as I can," cracked Park.

Matt was telling the city fellows that it takes some thought to run a rural situation. You have to take the patrons in their stride, not yours. "Any back seats tonight, Mr. Park?" a girl on the arm of a boy asks sweetly. "I'm sorry," was the answer, "but you'll have to watch the picture tonight."

Then there was the storekeeper who asked Matt why he insisted on playing the kind of pictures he did. He was a town man, you see, and they weren't to his taste. Matt lifted some heavy underwear from the counter. "Why do you sell these?" he asked. "Because the farmers buy them," was the answer. "That's why I play those pictures," explained Matt.

Rube Got Homesick

It was Matt's wonderful Swedish dialect that made Rube Bolstad, of Norwegian stock, think piningly of his native Minnesota. The pride of Wetaskiwin made reference by name to a certain Scandinavian edible compounded in Rube's earlier home. It seems that life is not worth living to the Swedes, Norwegians and Danes of rural Canada and the USA without regular helpings of this heavenly food.

Rube, who has gone on without it bravely through the years, hasn't tasted it since he left the By Yiminy region. Matt, who knows about it because there are many people of Scandinavian extraction in his area, promised to send Rube a barrelful when he got home.

When it arrives you will see a man who is happy to get into the barrel, whereas the rest of us spend our lives trying to get out.

I liked what one of our readers who operates far from here and in the country said about what he saw and shared. "It is like the Film Weekly come to life," he observed.

* * *

Typodermic Injections

Purely in self-defence against Irving Herman, International's publicity man, I wish to report that "Red Stallion" was held over at the Imperial and "Quiet Weekend" will probably be in its 11th week—that's right, 11th—at the International Cinema. The latter film has strange drawing power, for Rance Quarrington, manager of the theatre, tells me that patrons from many other communities in Ontario come to see it, making the long trip from the downtown hotels in taxis . . . Roy Miller was mighty happy when he told me that the new Bob Hope film, "Where There's Life," broke all opening records in his house, the Lincoln, St. Catharines.

Talk around that an English group will make a film at the St. Hyacinth studios called "The Twisted Banner" . . . **I hear that** Cy Strange, Austin Willis and their associates in the new company headed by Larry Cromien will make a VD feature . . . **Bob McStay,** Variety Mugg, after seeing Columbia's Technicolor "The Swordsman," which has many horses and a clan feud against a Scottish background, cracked "They ought to call it Hopalong McCassidy" . . . **Tom Bowyer** just invented a not-bad gag about a business meeting of the crystal gazers. The chairman opened the meeting with "The secretary will now read the minutes of the next meeting."

In a shadow box of a College Street theatre there are three empty frames for stills. At the bottom is a sign: "Usher Wanted." Obviously . . . **Vanishing Canadiana:** Bowler hats . . . **Worth reading** is Leslie Robert's article in the November Harper's, called "Canada in Uncle Sam's World". . . **Roses of Yesterday.** The phrase "The Machine" used in referring to one's automobile . . . **The TTC should** be grateful for the help the ladies give it in sweeping streetcar steps with their long coats . . . **Leo Devaney** taking a South American cruise . . . **Harold King** is in the Toronto territory as salesman for Harry Allen.

It was Jimmy Granger evening among Canadian exhibitors one day recently in Toronto—as what evening isn't when the Republic vice-president shows up anywhere? The Dominion's leading flicker slickers got together with Jimmy during their national meeting and here are some. We'll identify them in three rows, from left to right.

Back row—Walter Kennedy, Sovereign Films; Harvey Hunt, Odeon Theatres; Perry Wright, Empire-Universal; Stan Gosnell, Uptown, Toronto; Bob Hurwitz, Manitoba; Matt Park, Alberta; Archie Mason, Nova Scotia; Arch Jolley, Toronto; Henry Morton, Winnipeg; Ken Leach, Calgary, and Barney Fox, Toronto.

Second row—Hye Bossin, Canadian Film Weekly; Sam Fingold, head of National Theatre Services; Frank Gow, British Columbia; Nat Taylor, head of 20th Century Theatres, John Fitzgibbons, president of Famous Players; Jimmy Granger, guest of honor; Rube Bolstad, vice-president of Famous Players; and Mickey Isman, Empire-Universal.

Third row—Guy Upjohn, Odeon Theatres; Alf Perry, president of Empire-Universal; and Mesho Triller, Manitoba.

Photo is by Staley of the ABC News Pictures.

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THE ROYAL WEDDING

Photographed **In Technicolor**

Including scenes inside Westminster Abbey and Buckingham Palace.

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It's a problem!

"And for this I pay Amusement tax!"

AGAIN A FAMOUS ANNUAL POLL SPOTLIGHTS THE LEADER, AND AGAIN THE VOTERS SAY:

Paramount *is* *Paramount*

PARAMOUNT LEADS WITH More Top '46-'47 Pi

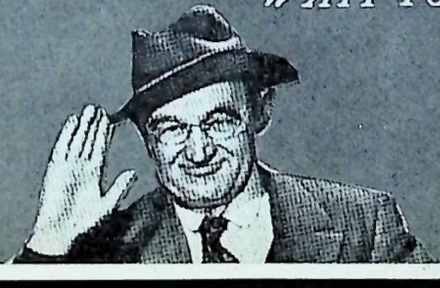
PARAMOUNT LEADS WITH The Number 1 and

PARAMOUNT LEADS WITH More Top Male S

PARAMOUNT LEADS WITH The Boxoffice

But YOU AIN'T SEEN NOTHIN' YET! WATCH AND WAIT FOR '48†—

Paramount's *Paramount Season*



†Release dates subject to change

—IN BOXOFFICE MAGAZINE'S NATIONWIDE EXHIBITOR-AND-PUBLIC VOTE FOR LEADING PICTURES AND STARS OF '46-'47

tures Than Any Other Company.
(Non-Road Show)

Three out of nine that hit the top-hit picture classification — "Welcome Stranger" — "Blue Skies" and "Two Years Before the Mast."

2 Top Pictures of The Year..
(Non-Road Show)

"Welcome Stranger" received the highest boxoffice rating of the year, reaching the phenomenal figure of 201% of the national average, and "Blue Skies" was just 10 points back of the leader, averaging 191%.

tars Than Any Other Company.

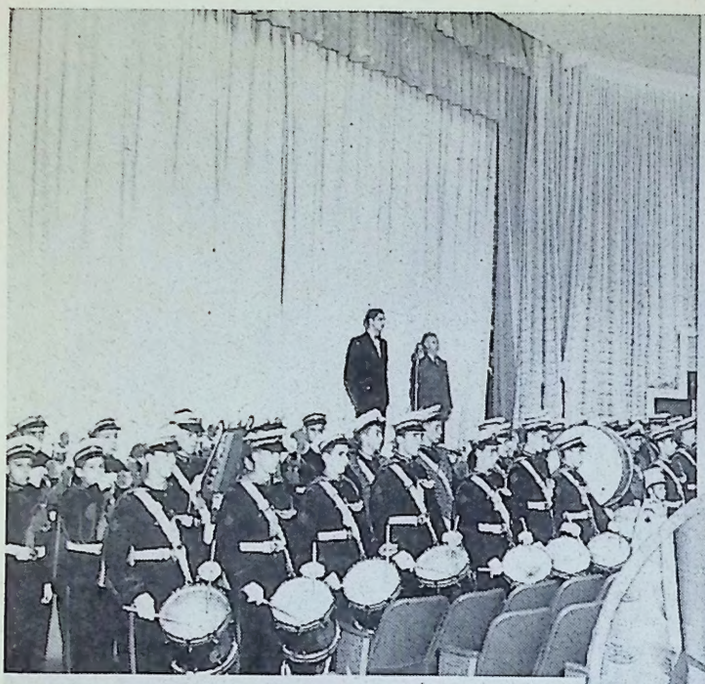
4 out of the top 12—with Bing Crosby, Gary Cooper, Alan Ladd and Bob Hope.*

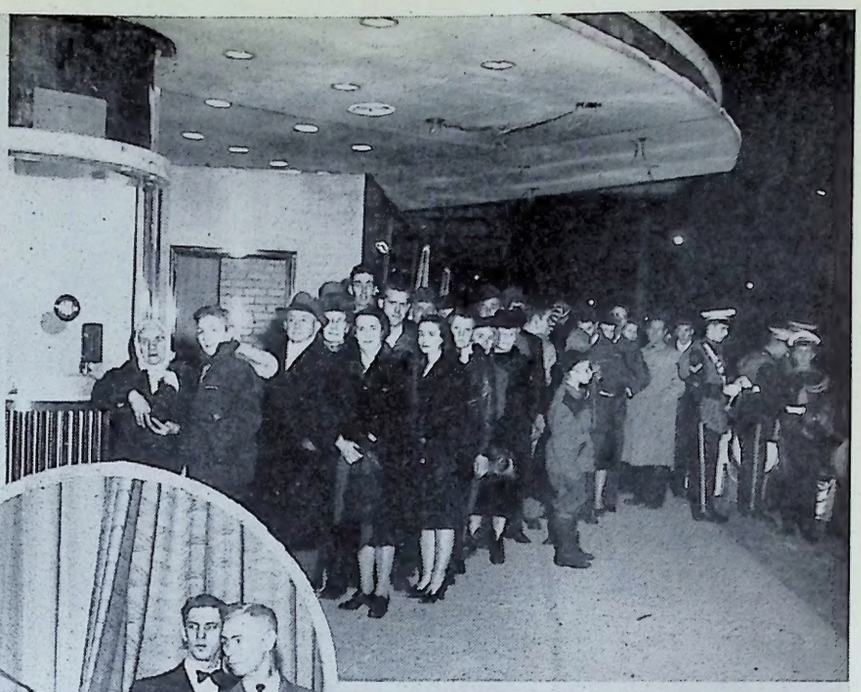
King Whose Name Is Bing..

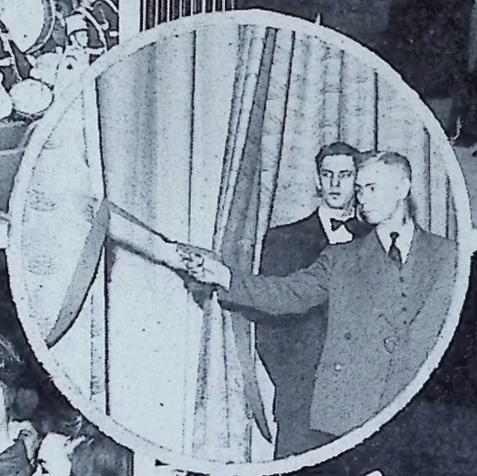
For the first time in history a star has led all other male stars in boxoffice popularity for 4 consecutive years. Paramount has that star of stars — Bing Crosby — and Paramount salutes him as a star of the *three* leading hits of the year—"Welcome Stranger," "Blue Skies" and "Variety Girl."

*Including poll-winners
BING in "Road To Rio" and "Emperor Waltz"
GARY in "Unconquered"
LADD in his first Technicolor Picture "Whispering Smith," and in "Saigon"
HOPE in your Big Thanksgiving Show, "Where There's Life," and in "Road To Rio"

At the Opening of Toronto's Newest Theatre, the Glendale







Twentieth Century Theatres' opening of the 1,000-seat Glendale Theatre, North Avenue Road, Toronto, was a bright affair. The theatre is rated by many as the most beautiful in Canada.

The first row of pictures, down, show (1) the De LaSalle Boys' Band massed in front of the stage just after Reeve George Mitchell of North York cut the ribbon which permitted the curtains to part, (2) Mr. and Mrs. Charles Peace buying the first ticket and (3) children of friends and associates. Left to right, they are Michael Taylor, Frankie Roth, Norman Griesdorf, Nancy Auerbach (in front), Billy Roth and Peter Mandell.

Photos in the second panel, down, show (1) the lineup, (2) the band in front of the theatre, (3) Reeve Mitchell and company officials. They are Myer Axler, Syd Roth, Raoul Auerbach, Reeve Mitchell, Nat Taylor, Manager Don Baecker and Harry Mandell.

Inset shows Reeve Mitchell cutting the ribbon as the manager looks on.

THE PICK OF THE PICTURES

Canadian Film Weekly
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REVIEWS INFORMATION RATINGS

Vol. 12, No. 49 REVIEWS FROM FILM DAILY, NEW YORK $2.00 Per Annum

Red Stallion

with Robert Paige, Noreen Nash, Ted Donaldson

International Film Distributors 81 Mins.

SHREWDLY DIRECTED HUMAN INTEREST STORY WITH STIRRING ACTION IN CINECOLOR HAS "CAN'T MISS" POTENTIALITIES.

A boy, a dog, a horse and Cinecolor provide a quartet of components that have can't-miss potentialities. Specifically, these elements will no doubt find wide favor with the juvenile and lower teen-age group in audience categories. For adult audiences there is a story backgrounding the activities of the youngster that is simple and logical in providing substance for what transpires.

After having raised "Red" from a foal, Ted Donaldson, learning his grandmother will have to give up their horsebreeding farm because a nearby army remount station has closed, decides to sell his steed as a racehorse. The animal is not trained to the track and starting gate. First trial proves unconvincing to the prospective buyer. With the connivance of his Indian friend, Donaldson hides "Red" in the hills so he won't be inventoried with the rest of the stock. The horse has thoroughbred blood.

The two decide to train him for the turf secretly, at night, on the nearby track where Paige and Miss Nash operate. "Red" learns quickly with surprising results. A competition is set. Night before, "Red," tethered in the hills, is attacked by a bear. In a stirring action sequence, he kills it but is injured. Next day "Red" beats out Pierre Watkin's prize horse. Watkin agrees to purchase terms which will save the farm. However, Donaldson is miserable having lost his horse. Jane Darwell, his grandmother, makes a deal upshot of which is that both Watkin and Donaldson be co-owners. Everybody is happy at the conclusion.

Story has a pleasant, leisurely pace. The racing scenes serve to spice the doings.

CAST: Robert Paige, Noreen Nash, Ted Donaldson, Jane Darwell, Ray Collins, Guy Kibbee, Willie Best.

CREDITS: A Bryan Foy Production; Producer, Ben Stoloff; Director, Lesley Selander; Original Screenplay, Robert E. Kent, Crane Wilbur; Photography, Virgil Miller.

DIRECTION, Good.
PHOTOGRAPHY, Good.

Christmas Eve

with George Raft, George Brent, Joan Blondell

United Artists 90 Mins.

SHOULD CAPTURE AUDIENCE ATTENTION: STORY VARIES FROM ROUTINE.

The original stories by Laurence Stallings and Richard H. Landau upon which this film is constructed vary sufficiently from routine assembly line offerings to capture audience attention.

Story's central focus shows up the eccentricity of old age. Ann Harding, at 70, is about to be declared mentally unbalanced by her nephew, Reginald Denny. Denny is a conniver who is out to gain control of Miss Harding's money. To lend weight to his plan he calls in a surrogate to observe her screwball antics and then draw his conclusions.

Miss Harding, however, has high cards up her sleeve. Three aces. They are her adopted sons, Raft, Brent and Randolph Scott. Brent is a playboy, Raft is hiding from the FBI in South America and Scott is a skirt-chasing, boozing cowboy. Yet, Miss Harding expects them all on Christmas Eve. Their appearances will help her prove mental stability.

In three segments the script sketches the life, times and women in the lives of the three "sons" and this makes for injection of light romance, dramatic action and in the final case of Scott, a bit of serio-comic relief.

The trio manage to show up in time for the Christmas Eve punch. Raft is trailed by John Litel, of the FBI. Before he is taken off to Washington, however, he is cleared of an earlier charge which indicated he was bilking Miss Harding. Instead it was Denny, who is forthwith marched off into custody.

Miss Harding, it is decided by Clarence Kolb, who is viewing the proceedings from the standpoint of legality, is able to handle her fortune.

CAST: George Brent, George Raft, Randolph Scott, Joan Blondell, Virginia Field, Dolores Moran, Ann Harding, Reginald Denny.

CREDITS: Producer, Benedict Bogeaus; Director, Edwin L. Marin.

DIRECTION, Adequate
PHOTOGRAPHY, Good.

Escape Me Never

with Ida Lupino, Errol Flynn

Warners 104 Mins.

A HANDSOME REMAKE, THIS ONE WITH IDA LUPINO IS A BOXOFFICE BET OF GREAT APPEAL FOR EVERY AUDIENCE.

A dozen years ago "Escape Me Never," based on Margaret Kennedy's novel and play, featuring Elisabeth Bergner in the leading feminine role, was a good thing at the boxoffice. It was produced in England. Miss Bergner had the added advantage of also appearing here in the stage version.

Miss Kennedy's basic story poignantly details the happy, at first, plight of "Gemma" — Ida Lupino. She's a waif in Venice, mother of an infant whose father is dead, mistress to Flynn, an itinerant composer who has a weather eye for a pretty face much to Miss Lupino's consternation. He's a rotter, but she loves him. Miss Lupino inadvertently busts up Gig Young's budding romance with Miss Parker. Young is Flynn's brother. The way Miss Lupino relates it Miss Parker's family thinks she is carrying on scandalously with Young since both men carry same names. The Parker menage goes to the Dolomites. Miss Lupino, Flynn and Young set out to find them to set things to rights. However, Flynn finds Miss Parker first and she succumbs to his charm. Miss Lupino threatens to leave. They make up, marry, go to London.

In London the situation becomes unbearable to Miss Lupino when she learns Flynn is chasing Miss Parker again. Her baby dies. She deserts Flynn when she learns he has gone off to a clandestine meeting with Miss Parker. However, at that meeting, he learns of Miss Parker's stuffy preference for "nice" things and being at heart a carefree Bohemian, he returns to compose a successful ballet, "Gemma."

"Escape Me Never" with Miss Lupino in this new version is better than it ever was.

CAST: Ida Lupino, Errol Flynn, Gig Young, Eleanor Parker, Reginald Denny, Isobel Elsom, Albert Basserman, Ludwig Stossel.

CREDITS: Producer, Henry Blanke; Director, Peter Godfrey; Screenplay, Thames Williamson, Lenore Coffee; Based on the novel and play by Margaret Kennedy; Photography, Sol Polito.

DIRECTION, Very Good.
PHOTOGRAPHY, Excellent.

Kiss Of Death

with Victor Mature, Brian Donlevy, Coleen Gray

20th Century-Fox 98 Mins.

ONE OF THE MOST SUSPENSE-LADEN, GRIPPING DRAMAS TO COME TO SCREEN IN YEARS. TELLINGLY DIRECTED BY HENRY HATHAWAY.

Here is one of the most suspense-laden, gripping offerings to come to the screen in many moons.

The picture introduces a very promising young actress in the person of Coleen Gray. Victor Mature is splendid in a serious role, while Brian Donlevy is convincing as an assistant District Attorney. Richard Widmark, making his screen debut, is a standout.

Ben Hecht and Charles Lederer fashioned a gripping screenplay. Victor Mature and three accomplices rob a jewelry shop. Mature is caught, but his aides escape. Brian Donlevy, of the District Attorney's office, promises to get Mature let off with a light sentence if he will "squeal" on his accomplices. Mature refuses and receives a heavy sentence.

One of Mature's fellow prisoners at Sing Sing is Richard Widmark. Mature learns that his wife committed suicide and that their two little daughters have been taken to an orphanage. Three years have elapsed, and Mature is determined to see his children.

Realizing that he has been "double crossed" by his lawyer, Taylor Holmes, Mature agrees to make a deal with Donlevy. Donlevy is particularly interested in convicting Widmark for the murder of a night-club operator. To gain his parole, Mature gathers evidence against Widmark. Widmark is tried but found not guilty.

Mature, who has married Coleen Gray, fears for her safety and that of his children, knowing Widmark's brutality. He seeks out Widmark, is shot down by the latter, but the police slay Widmark. Mature recovers and returns to his wife and children.

CAST: Victor Mature, Brian Donlevy, Coleen Gray, Richard Widmark, Taylor Holmes, Howard Smith, Karl Malden.

CREDITS: Producer, Fred Kohlmar; Director, Henry Hathaway.

DIRECTION, Excellent.
PHOTOGRAPHY, Very Good.

Fox Announces Short Subjects

(Continued from Page 1)

subjects sales manager.

This unprecedented production record follows the recent change of policy whereby shorts will parallel 20th Century-Fox feature product by being released on a calendar year basis.

Twelve Movietone single-reel featurettes of the 20 to be made available during the coming year have been completed, while Paul Terry has reported that 13 of the 22 releases for 1948 are already in the Technicolor laboratories for processing.

Further announcement was made over the weekend of the signing of Ilka Chase, famous writer, stage, screen and radio star, who will furnish the narration for the "Feminine World" series to be produced by Vyvyan Donner.

Two additional Terrytoon specials will be re-released during 1948 because of popular request by exhibitors. They are "The Green Line" featuring Mighty Mouse, and the highly-praised "Butcher of Seville."

Movietone is currently filming two additional subjects in Technicolor. They are "Desert Light" which is being made in Reno and Las Vegas, Nevada, and "Way of the Padres" depicting a trip to famous missions in Southern California.

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Local B73, IATSE Elects New Officers

The Toronto Film Exchange Union, B73, IATSE, recently held its annual election meeting. Voting resulted in the election of the following:

Tom Sharpe of 20th Century-Fox, president; Blain Covert, vice-president; Charlotte Batcher, secretary; Roy McLean, treasurer; Max Applebaum, business agent; and Mrs. Ann McLean, Ralph Ludwig, Alf Bangay and Bill McGuire, members of the executive board.

Egan Re-elected

P. D. Egan was re-elected president of the Calgary Theatres Association, with Ralph Michletree vice-president and Les Litch secretary. Roy Chown, K. M. Leach, B. Goldin, J. B. Barron, Glen Peacock and W. Dowhanuk are on the executive board.

Photo Engravers To Close For Holidays

Information received from Photo Engravers and Electrotypers Limited of Toronto, the firm that does the greater part of the engraving work for the film industry, states that the company will close from noon, Wednesday, December 24th, to Monday morning, December 29th, for the Christmas holiday. For the New Year holiday the company will shutter from noon, Wednesday, December 31st, to Friday morning, January 2nd.

Bob Maynard At Capitol, Ham'n

(Continued from Page 1)

after many years as manager of the Palace, which was opened as the Pantages in 1921.

Bob was born in Ottawa, the son of one of that city's first exhibitors, William H. Maynard, who was associated with the Fairyland, Family and Columbia Theatres at various times. After leaving school in South Bend, Indiana, Bob joined B & F, Toronto, as a manager.

In 1936 he became manager of the Regent, Ottawa, and later he handled the Cartier, Hull. After leaving the industry to become assistant sales manager of Brading Breweries, Ottawa, he returned in 1941 to the Biltmore, Oshawa. Anything but theatre business was not congenial, he discovered.

He was Odeon city supervisor in Saskatoon for two years before coming to the Savoy, Hamilton.

Bob, like his brother Paul of Manley Popcorn Machines, was an athlete and played for the Ottawa Rough Riders. In Toronto he rowed for Argos and the Dons.

Bezahler Promoted Now Rodgers Ass't

Joel Bezahler has been promoted to the post of assistant to William F. Rodgers, MGM vice-president and general sales manager, according to an announcement by Rodgers at the recent four-day conference in New York.

Bezahler has been with the company since 1921 when he joined Louis B. Mayer Productions and moved over as assistant to Edwin W. Aaron, head of the contract department, when the company merged with Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer. In 1931 he became assistant to Edward M. Saunders, western sales manager, and filled that post when John E. Flynn succeeded Saunders and when Burtus Bishop took over about a year ago on Flynn's retirement.

Reagan In 'Montana'

Jack L. Warner has assigned Ronald Reagan to star in Warner Bros.' forthcoming production of "Montana," a colorful adventure drama by Ernest Haycox. Raoul Walsh will direct the film, with William Jacobs producing.

Indie Producers In New Co'y

With independent producers now finding it absolutely essential to their continued existence to obtain maximum income from their films both here and abroad, establishment of a new organization, designed toward that specific end, was announced recently. It is Producers Representatives, Inc., with offices in New York and Hollywood.

Irving Lesser, former managing director of the Roxy Theatre, NY, is president. Seymour Poe, formerly with United Artists and now eastern representative for Sol Lesser Productions, is treasurer.

The new organization will represent Edward G. Robinson's Thalia Productions, Frank Melford and Julian Lesser's Windsor Pictures and Sol Lesser Productions. Robinson's unit is preparing "Harness Bull," the story of a New York cop, for United Artists release. Windsor will film a series of Gene Stratton Porter stories for Monogram, first of which will be "Girl of the Limberlost." Lesser, veteran producer, distributes through both United Artists and RKO.

Producers Representatives expects to assume distribution representation for a limited number of additional independents. To give them a fully-rounded service, PR is providing, as part of its operation, aid in obtaining production financing.

Gangster, Crime Pix Under Ban

(Continued from Page 1)

The board approved a new regulation to add to 12 previous regulations adopted over the last several years relative to crime in motion pictures. The new regulation follows:

"XIII. No picture shall be approved dealing with the life of a notorious criminal of current or recent times which uses the name, nickname, or alias of such notorious criminal in the film, nor shall a picture be approved if based upon the life of such a notorious criminal unless the character shown in the film be punished for crimes shown in the film as committed by him."

The title provisions of the Production Code were also strengthened. Section XI, adopted in 1930, stipulated that salacious, indecent or obscene titles shall not be used and the section substituted includes that and states that "Titles which suggest or are currently associated in the public mind with material, characters, or occupations unsuitable for the screen" are not permitted.

The new provisions will forbid the registration of titles using the names of notorious criminals, and are designed to avoid any cycles of motion pictures dealing with gangsters and organized crimes of violence.

Titles used for pictures released between 1928 and 1947 but now listed as unsuitable for re-release or re-issue included the following:—"Dillinger," 1945; "Roger Touhy, Gangster," 1944; "The Racket Man," 1944; "This Gun for Hire," 1943; "The Murder Ring," 1942; "The Killers," 1946; "They Made Me a Killer," 1946; "Born to Kill," 1947; "Shoot to Kill," 1947; "The Last Gangster," 1937; "Me Gangster," 1928; "Gang War," 1928; "Ladies of the Mob," 1928; and "The Racketeer," 1930.

Eric Johnston, head of the MPAA, described its action as being "further evidence of the determination of our members to utilize our self-regulatory machinery to the fullest to assure decency and good taste in motion pictures, titles and advertising."

British Actor Stars

Robert Douglas, British actor, will star opposite Joan Crawford in Warners' "Until Proven Guilty."

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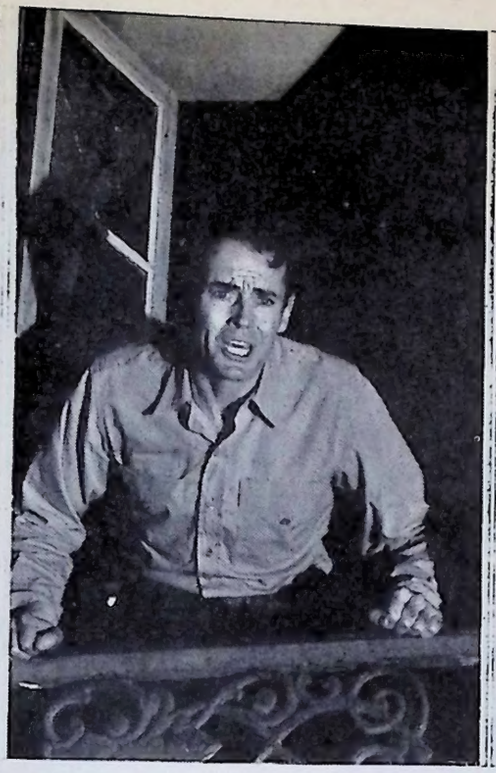

RKO's 'The Long Night' Tense Murder Pic

WITH a strong cast headed by Henry Fonda, Barbara Bel Geddes, Vincent Price and Ann Dvorak, RKO's "The Long Night" is a tense triangle murder drama that should draw in the cash customers and then keep them on the edge of their seats.

Told in flashback style, "The Long Night" deals with the disillusionment and heartbreak suffered by an ex-serviceman when he returns to find his girl has been unfaithful. His last shred of belief in humanity fades when he is taunted about it by the other man and he kills him while in a dazed condition in which he is not responsible for what he is doing. Mob scenes are highlights as is Fonda's harangue to the crowd.

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